

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1, which begins "The invention is based on ..." with the following amended paragraph.

The invention is based on a force application element, comprising a tensioning anchor to anchor a strip-shaped material to a supporting structure ~~as indicated in the preamble of the first claim.~~

Please replace the first paragraph on page 3, which begins "This goal is achieved by a force ..." with the following amended paragraph.

This goal is achieved by a force application element according to the invention as specified in ~~Claim 1~~ the claims.

Please replace the paragraph under the **Brief Description of the Drawing** on page 4 with the following amended paragraph.

The following discussion explains embodiments of the invention in more detail based on the drawing. In the various figures, identical elements are provided with identical reference numbers.

- Fig. 1 is a schematic side view of a first embodiment;
- Fig. 2 is a schematic side view of another embodiment;
- Fig. 3A is a schematic side view of yet another embodiment;
- Fig. 3B is a schematic ~~side~~ top view of ~~another~~ the embodiment ~~based on~~ of Fig. 3A;
- Fig. 3C is a schematic side view of another embodiment based on Fig. 3A employing a slight modification;
- Fig. 4A is a side view of another embodiment;
- Fig. 4B is a top view of ~~another~~ the embodiment ~~based on~~ of Fig. 4A;

- Fig. 5A is a side view of another embodiment;
- Fig. 5B is a top view of ~~another~~ the embodiment based on of Fig. 5A;
- Fig. 6A is a side view of another embodiment having a wedge-shaped bonding of the extension element to the composite material;
- Fig. 6B is a top view of ~~another~~ the embodiment based on of Fig. 6A;
- Fig. 6C is a side view of another embodiment having a zigzag-shaped bonding of the extension element to the composite material;
- Fig. 6D is a side view of another embodiment having a wave-shaped bonding of the extension element to the composite material;
- Fig. 7 is a side view of an especially preferred embodiment of an extension element having a hyperbolic design.